LEVEL ONE

Soundings

News and Information from
The Northwest Washington Synod

Volume 19, Number 7 August 2002

A Word From The Bishop, Wm Chris Boerger

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"All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness..."
2 Timothy 3:16 NRSV

Let's Study The Word

One of the great joys of my parish ministry experience was the teaching of weekly Bible studies. This began in my first parish when the clergy of the three congregations worked together to prepare and lead this class. That set the pattern for me that continued until last June.

As I was sorting through some old records, I noticed an interesting "coincidence". In looking at the lists of people who had participated in my Bible classes I discovered that roughly 80 percent of the council leadership that served these congregations came from the Bible study classes.

One of the questions that is asked of me as I visit our congregations is "How do we develop lay leadership?" Based on my experience, start a Bible study. It is not in the surveying the talents of people, although these are helpful, that they are called by the Holy Spirit to serve in Christ's church.

I believe that we live in an age that will continue to need to hear the basics of the faith. People want to know why their service in the church is important. It is not because the church organization needs a steady pool of volunteers.

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Continued from page 1--A Word from the Bishop

Let's Study The Word

It is rather because God has called us through the promises of baptism into new life and new service. Only as I wrestle with the scriptures and the world that exists around me am I able to hear that call.

Another statement that concerns me comes from some of our call committees. "Bishop, we want a pastor who will lead Bible study." I must admit to a bit of shock when I first heard this. Doesn't every pastor lead the study of scripture?

"People want to know why their service in the church is important."

I will admit that there are many good Bible study leaders who are not clergy. I also know the need to prioritize time and schedules for pastors. Having said that, I want to put a strong word out for the teaching office of the pastor and especially as it relates to the opening of the scriptures for God's people.

We are a people of faith who are formed by scripture. We live in an age of great Biblical illiteracy. The public square is full of popular Biblical material that comes from some very sloppy exegesis and theology. Some of the very popular "nondenominational" studies do not reveal their theological bias. These classes appeal to our members who are not supported in having a critical eye and ear to what they are hearing. They attend because we have not offered them alternatives.

In the current and future debates in the church about social issues and contemporary practices, we will quote and hear quoted much from the Bible. How are our members to judge what they hear if they do not have a background in how to study the scriptures? This may sound like very basic stuff. It is.

It is the Word made flesh who saves us. It is the Word, spoken by the prophets and the apostles, that the Spirit uses to work faith in us. It is the Word, that empowers our preaching and our serving. It is time to study the Word.

Ethiopia Visit For Rev. Brekhus

In 2001 the congregation of Our Saviour's in Stanwood contributed $16,106 to construct two new churches in Ethiopia.

For two weeks in June/July Rev. Don Brekhus, Michelle Brekhus and Brenda Mendez visited Ethiopia to participate in the ceremonies for a couple new churches that were made possible by these and other gifts. They attended through the invitation of Reverend Masresha Mengiste, Vice President of Ethiopian Evangelical Church, Mekane Yesus, North Central Ethiopia Synod. Our Saviour's helped to raise funds to defray the cost of the trip.

Northwest Washington Synod Information

Synod Salary Guidelines

The Synod Personnel Committee has worked for more than a year to research and to develop a new set of Synod Salary Guidelines. Please check out the articles from the Personnel Committee on page 4. Thank you to the Committee for their hard work!

Bishop's Fall Convo With Dr. Juel

The Northwest Washington Bishop's Convocation Committee presents a retreat for all rostered personnel and spouses from Oct. 20-22 at Harrison Hot Springs in British Columbia.

Keynote speaker and presenter is Dr. Don Juel from Princeton Theological Seminary. The topic is: *Finding One's Self at the Mercy of God: The Gospel of Mark for Preaching and Pastoral Care.* For more information about Dr. Juel visit www.ptsem.edu/meet/Faculty01/Juel.html.

Cost is $180 each for double occupancy; $285 for single occupancy. Registration includes two nights lodging and use of all resort amenities; a Sunday evening banquet, two deluxe continental breakfasts; and two coffee breaks.

For more information about Harrison Hot Springs visit their website at www.harrisonresort.com.

Registration deadline is Sept. 8.

LOMA Update

The upcoming changes at LOMA Conference and Retreat Center reported in the last issue need clarification. After a thorough review, the Board of Directors decided that the valuable asset represented by LOMA could more effectively benefit the Lutheran community in other ways. The facility is expected to close in a couple of years, however in the meantime it is business as usual and your support is needed. A successful transition will ensure a successful future for the ministry. Visit our new website at www.lomacenter.com. Please call LOMA at 425-392-1871 with any questions or to book your next retreat!

Peace for Middle East

Last month a Middle East Peace Petition was included in this newsletter. The petition was organized by an organization called *Churches for Middle East Peace*. This petition was for you to share with others for their signature. The short-term goal for *Churches for Middle East Peace* was to collect 10,000 signatures to present to our D.C. representatives by June 30. We, as Lutherans, have been "assigned" 2000 signatures to collect.

For more information about the organization called *Churches for Middle East Peace,* go to their website at www.cmep.org or contact Anita Aukee Johnson, from Anacortes Lutheran in Anacortes, at 360-293-4076.

Updating the Synod Salary Guidelines

by Synod Personnel Committee

The salary guidelines that we have been using in the Northwest Washington Synod were established in 1988 at the time of the merger. The basis for these guidelines was grounded in the formulas that were used by the old ALC and LCA. Essentially the foundation formulas have been with us since at least in the late 1970's. The factors are exactly the same. Some modifications were made.

The Synod Personnel Committee began the task of reviewing the guidelines by asking the question, "What would be appropriate guidelines for us the recommend in this current economic climate?" We collected the guidelines of many synods throughout the church. We found that they varied greatly and were not of a lot of help.

To attempt to answer the question of what would be a *just wage*, we engaged a consultant, Betty McNeeley. McNeeley's vocational experience was to determine what would be a comparable salary for significantly different jobs in the workplace.

The tool that we used was developed by MIT and is a standard methodology by many Fortune 500 companies. The methodology is based on Compensable Factors used to define common characteristics between highly diverse jobs.

The work of our consultant and the Personnel Committee was presented to the Synod Council at their May meeting and was passed with significant support. The results are now available from the Personnel Committee and will be distributed to the Synod as the 2003 Salary Guidelines.

One of the items that we were not able to factor into the 2003 recommendations is the Cost of Living disparity that we have in the Northwest Washington Synod. We will be asking congregations to take this reality into account as salary recommendations are made.

Salary Guidelines

When you look at the Salary Guidelines for 2003, what will be different? Let me start with what will be the same.

You will see a chart that is based on the number of years of service since ordination. The low end of the recommended range will be based on the old formulas and will be increased from the 2002 guidelines by the cost of living index since last year.

The biggest difference is that there will be a range for the congregation to consider rather than simply one number. The top end of the range will be the salary amount that is considered to be parity for a pastor with others of the workplace with common compensable factors. It is because of having a range that we believe that an important difference will be a conversation about where to place the recommendation rather than whether of not to use the one numbers that was on the old chart.

Since there is a significant increase the higher that one goes on the experience scale, it will probably be necessary that the increases be made over a period of several years.

It will be an important part of the process to have an open and frank conversation about where in the salary range will be appropriate to set the recommendation. It would be in this conversation that the reality of the difference in cost of living as compared to other areas of the synod would take place..

Life Together: Listening, Learning, Living

2002 Synod Assembly

Thank you to everyone who made the 2002 Northwest Washington Synod Assembly a success: the planning committee; all voting members, visitors, and observers; and all the displayers. A special thanks to the congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church in Lynnwood for their gracious welcome to the more than 550 people who attended this year's Assembly!

This year's offering went to Stand With Africa. More than $4,995 was received. Thank you to everyone who gave to this special campaign.

If you would like more information about the Assembly you can read the daily newsletters which are up on the Synod's website. You can download them at www.lutheransnw.org/assembly2002. There are also some photos too. The Synod Office will have available one set of video tapes from the Assembly. These can be borrowed by congregations. Purchased video tapes are available through Spiritborne Productions. An order form is available on the Synod website.

Final Election Results

Synod Council

Sharon Greenwood—Vice President
Mary Jones, Associate in Ministry—Secretary (First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, Shoreline)
Francis Baker (St. John United, Seattle)
Rev. Laurie Bleakley (Oak Harbor, Oak Harbor)
Rev. Eduardo Cabrera (Burlington, Burlington)
Luz Maria Cabrera (Burlington, Burlington)
Steven Chapman (Central, Seattle)
Rev. Sarah France (Faith, Everett)
Mark Johnson (Magnolia, Seattle)
Patricia Moylan (Anacortes, Anacortes)
Rev. D. Scott Postlewait (Lutheran Campus Pastor, University of Washington)
Glenn Ryder (Denny Park, Seattle)
Rev. Mark Saline (Harbour Pointe, Mukilteo)
Kay Stendal (Salem, Mount Vernon)

ELCA 2003 Churchwide Assembly

Carlos Aguero (Fir-Conway, Mount Vernon)
Fritz Baesman (Nativity, Renton)
Bishop Wm Chris Boerger—Ex-officio (Christ/King, Snohomish)
Rev. Jan Nesse (First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, Shoreline)
Cliff Bronson, Associate in Ministry (Trinity, Lynnwood)
Luz Maria Cabrera (Burlington, Burlington)
Mary Jones, Associate in Ministry (First Lutheran of Richmond Beach, Shoreline)
Bill Kirlin-Hackett (St. Luke's, Seattle)
Cynthia Kopperstad (Grace, Des Moines)
Sue Logghe (Faith, Bellingham)
Rev. Jim Rismiller (Lord of Life, Renton)

State Advocate's Corner

by Rev. Paul B. Benz, Director; Lutheran Public Policy Office

Greetings! This month I'd like to update you all on the TANF/Welfare Reform reauthorization process in Congress and talk about the "non-controversial" topic of taxes.

In mid-May the House passed the President's version, which many advocates in the religious community believe will place more burdens on households striving to get out of poverty such as increasing the required work hours to 40/week. It does very little to increase funding and access to job training and education opportunities. It does very little to increase childcare funding. It sets up a marriage enhancement program that both LPPO (Lutheran Public Policy Office) and LOGA (Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs) oppose because it uses the institution of marriage as an instrument for social welfare policy which obscures the realities of poverty and how best to rise out of it.

The Senate Finance committee passed a version that will give households more support and opportunities to climb out of poverty and become self-sufficient. Be sure to write/call our US Senators to urge them to vote for this version that came out of the Finance Committee. Senate leadership or the White House may delay a vote on the senate floor and postpone reauthorization until the next congressional session.

In terms of taxation. This is one of LPPO's legislative priorities for this year because it is a critical issue in our state. It is critical because of the current budget crisis and because our tax system is one of the most regressive in the country. (Those with the least ability/income pay more taxes than those in our state with a greater ability/income.) I also refer you to our ELCA Social Statement *Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood For All* (pages 11 and 12) which talk about the use of taxes and fairness in taxing.

The Southwestern Washington Synod passed two resolutions on taxation at its 2002 Synod Assembly. One resolution was on the need for human service program funding. The second resolution called on the Churchwide Assembly to direct the ELCA Division for Church in Society to undertake a study on the use and fairness of taxes; and the resolution cites the regressive nature of our state's tax system.

LPPO is a part of a broad based coalition (religious, education, human services, labor, and citizen advocacy groups) that was convened by the Washington Association of Churches to:

- Address our regressive tax system
- Educate and engage our members and the public in this debate
- Propose possible short term budget solutions and long term reforms to our tax system.

Please contact me to find out more about this coalition. I am also available to come and speak to your congregation about this important issue that affects the quality and basic necessities of life in our state. You can contact me at: 206-694-5772 or at pbenz@lcsnw.org.

Board of Pension

Easy Access to Account Information

Coming in February 2003, members of the ELCA Board of Pensions will have access to their retirement account 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This information will be available either by a secure internet on-line access or by telephone using an interactive voice response system. More details will be available in September, 2002.

Retiring? Plan Ahead

The Board of Pensions is asking that if you are considering retirement, you need to plan three months ahead of time before your announcement. It is especially important to do so if you are planning on retiring in 2002. In 2003, the retirement plan will offer different options for receiving your lifetime monthly pension income. To help you get started, request a retirement packet form the Board of Pensions. To request a packet contact the Board of Pensions at 1-800-352-2876 or email to mail@elcabop.org.

Special Needs Fund

The Board of Pensions is pleased to announce that the ELCA Special Needs Fund continues to grow and receive increased awareness throughout the ELCA. This fund supports the needs of retired pastors and rostered laypersons and their spouses living with great financial needs. To contribute to the Fund, contact the ELCA Foundation at 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2970. For an application or to learn more about the fund's eligibility requirements contact Polly Bergerson at 1-800-352-2876 or email at pbergerson@elcabop.org.

Stewardshops

Plan now to attend one of the two *Stewarshops* meetings this fall. You will learn new and effective tools for your congregation's stewardship ministry. Your leadership will also be energized for God's mission. *Stewardshops* features skill-based workshops focused specifically on funding God's Mission through your congregation.

These workshops include:

- ☑ **Build A Case:** Establishing Motivation for Giving
- ☑ **Be Passionate:** Developing Entrepreneurial Leaders
- ☑ **A Closer Look:** Analyzing Response Methods
- ☑ **Thanking Six Times:** Donor Appreciation
- ☑ **In Person:** Asking for Contributions
- ☑ **A Story To Tell:** Interpreting God's Mission to Givers
- ☑ **Growing Your Mission Endowment:** Wills and Estate Planning

Mark your calendars now for one of the two dates that have been set aside:

- 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14 at Kent in Kent

or

- 1:30 to 6 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 15 at Oak Harbor in Oak Harbor

The cost is $25 per congregation. There will be an additional $5 charge per person to cover lunch and refreshments. More complete information will be mailed to each congregation. For details, call the Region 1 office at 206-624-0093 ext. 104 for Rev. Phil Reitz or ext. 103 for Janet Nelson.

The Lutheran Ladies are coming, the Lutheran Ladies are coming!

On November 2 humorists Janet Letnes Martin and Suzanne Nelson will be speaking at Cross of Christ in Bellevue. Mark your calendars to attend this laughter packed program.

The comedy routine of *Those Lutheran Ladies* is just what we need to help us remember that God has a sense of humor too. Whether you are "growing up" in the Lutheran church or are newly indoctrinated you will have to laugh out loud when Janet and Suzann team up to issue public statement on lard, trapping pocket gophers, Jell-O, hotflashes, Lutherans, scrap lumber, cream peas, and other earth shaking topics. The basic theme in their books, tapes, and programs is growing up Scandinavian-American in strongly Lutheran farm communities in the Midwest in the 50's.

The sixth book that *Those Lutheran Ladies* wrote is titled, "Growing Up Lutheran".

Their latest publication is titled, *Just How Much Scrap Lumber Does a Man Need to Save?*

Come and laugh and learn a little history. You won't be disappointed! Tickets will be available for purchase in October. Plan to attend!

For further information contact SaraKatherine Goldsmith via email: SaraKatherine@juno.com.

Would your congregation also like to have these enchanting entertainers enliven an afternoon or evening in early November for your community? If so, we might be able to reduce some of the costs in bringing Janet Letnes Martin and Suzann Nelson to Washington by sharing in some of the travel arrangements.

Please contact event coordinator, SaraKatherine Goldsmith by email at SaraKatherine@juno.com prior to September 1 for further information.

The Quilts Keep Coming!

by Pastor Lowell Stordahl, Camano Lutheran, Camano Island

The ladies of Camano Lutheran Church have been busy! This year they made 430 quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR): 118 were shipped in November and 289 were shipped in May. (The most of any congregation in our Synod.)

The ladies also made an additional 16 quilts for *Friendship House* in Mount Vernon and in May delivered 71 layettes for a total of 88 this year.

Our Sunday School and families have also been busy supporting LWR. They made 71 school kits that were shipped in November, collected 840 bars of soap during Lent, and this spring collected clothing and sweaters for children, men and women. In all, the congregation shipped more than a ton (2397 lbs.) to LWR.

Campus Ministry Referrals!

Pastors and congregations, you've honored your high school graduates, now don't forget to take the next two important steps:

1. Tell your graduates about Lutheran Campus Ministry

2. Tell Lutheran Campus Ministry about your graduates

Take a moment and make sure that this important referral has been made. Lutheran Campus Ministry is a direct ministry of your congregation.

Send, call, fax, or email referrals of ALL your college-bound (or already in college) students, to:

Rev. Scott Postlewait; Lutheran Campus Ministry; 4525 19th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98105; Phone: 206 524-7900; Fax: 206 524-7907; Email: chscott@drizzle.com

That's it! Send your whole list here, and we'll make sure the Lutheran Campus Ministry staff at the appropriate schools are notified.

Healthy Congregations

Dr. Peter Steinke will be leading a facilitator training workshop for Healthy Congregations from August 27-29 at LOMA, Issaquah.

This three-day workshop will prepare professional facilitators to conduct Healthy Congregations' workshops. Participants will receive a complete package of workshop materials, including a Facilitator's Manual, congregational study guides and video. Cost: $550 per person; $950 for two people; or $1200 for three or more. To register, please contact Healthy Congregations at 512-342-8684 or on their website at www.healthycongregations.org. Our local contact is Rev. Julie Josund, Calvary in Seattle. She can be reached at 206-783-3930 or by email at pastorjulie@earthlink.net.

Mentoring the Faith: Partners for Nurture 2003

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness." Col. 2:6-7 (NIV)

Partners for Nurture, the annual Christian lay-educators training event, will be held on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2002 on the Trinity Lutheran College campus in Issaquah. Workshops will include basic teaching skills, personal growth and nurture, and outreach and mission. Mim Campbell, Director of Children and Family Ministry for the ELCA, will be the keynote speaker. Registration packets will be mailed to churches in early fall. For more information contact Sue Houglum at (425) 961-5532 or houglum@tlc.edu.

CLU Doctoral Degree

The School of Education at California Lutheran University (CLU), Thousand Oaks, Calif., will offer its first doctoral degree program in educational leadership beginning this fall. Founded in 1961, CLU is the youngest and one of the first of 28 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) affiliated colleges to offer a doctoral degree.

The doctoral degree program was designed for working professionals. Classes are held once a week, with occasional Saturday seminars and on-line instruction. Only 20 students per year will be accepted into the four-year program that leads to a doctorate of education degree (Ed.D.). More information on CLU's educational leadership program can be found at www.clunet.edu.

Breaking The Barriers

Interested in multicultural evangelism? Then plan now to attend the ELCA Muliticultural Mission Institute.

The institute will be held Nov. 1 - 3 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The Theme is: *Breaking the Barriers--Evangelism: Building a Beloved Community.* Learn specific ways of inviting and keeping new members from cultures other than yours. Meet people from congregations that have successfully invited and retained new members by transforming their congregation into a multicultural membership.

The registration fee before Sept. 15 is $65; after Sept. 15 it will be $85. To learn more go to: www.elca.org/cmm/mmi/index.html.

Congregation Health and Hope Grants

Wheat Ridge Ministries invites Lutheran congregations to submit applications for its Congregation Health and Hope Grant program.

All Lutheran congregations are eligible for these grants. The maximum amount per grant is $2,000 for a single congregation and $6,000 for collaborative efforts involving two or more congregations. Projects must support and promote health and well-being of people in the congregation and local community.

Grant funds may be invested in health-related events and leadership development; staff training; planning; materials, resources or equipment directly related to the program.

Deadline for submitting applications is Sept. 30,2002. You can download a complete list of guidelines as well as the proposal format at www.wheatridge.org.

Aid Association for Lutherans/ Lutheran Brotherhood (AAL/LB) announced on June 19 that 79 % of their members approved the new name for the organization: *Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.* The new name still requires other approvals.

Head of Staff, Transition and Ministry Seminars

The Head of Staff Seminar is offered to those who are newly called as senior/head of staff pastors. The focus is on the role that the head of staff plays in visionary leadership of a congregation and guiding the development of a congregational staff team. This seminar will be held Feb. 1-4, 2003. Cost is $325 plus housing and meals.

The Ministry Staff Seminar is offered to those who serve in staff settings: associates in ministry, diaconal ministers, assistants and associate pastors, music directors, youth and family ministers, parish nurses, etc. The focus of this event is to explore the unique challenges and opportunities of serving on a ministry staff. This seminar will be held Feb. 4-5, 2003. Cost is $325 plus housing and meals.

The Transition Seminar is offered to those who have recently moved between the Head of Staff and Ministry positions. This seminar will be held Feb. 6-9, 2003. Cost is $100 plus housing and meals.

All seminars will be held at the Duncan Center, ELCA Conference, in Delray Beach, Florida. For registration information contact Holly McKnight, Div. for Ministry, at 1-800-638-3522, ext. 2888.

On-line Congregational Study Of Economic Life

In 1999, the ELCA adopted a social statement on economic life. To help congregations examine the statement and the issues it raised, the ELCA Division for Church in Society has created a web-based study guide, *Receive with Thanksgiving*, at www.elca.org/dcs/receivewiththanksgiving.html.

These materials were designed for congregations to use in adult education or confirmation classes.

We Continue to Help Others

The ELCA continues to sustain life and restore structures damaged or destroyed by natural and human-made disasters. Coordinated through the ELCA Division for Global Mission, International Disaster Response is providing funds for food, medicine, drinking water, emergency shelter and other materials for survivors of disasters around the world.

Among current ELCA International Disaster Response work include: Afghanistan, Angola, Chechnya, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

On-line, Not Sideline: Rural Youth Ministry

Beginning on Sept. 8 is an eight-week course designed for church teams to explore practices that help involve young people in the life and ministry of their rural and smaller membership congregations. Cost is $150 and includes materials for the whole team. For more information and forms go to www.ruralminstry.com or www.fishersnet.net. Telephone 563-589-3117.

Advocates Needed

Interested advocates are needed from our synod to be a part of two public policy ecumenical working groups. One is the Washington Interfaith Global Warming Task Force that is convened by the Washington Association of Churches and the other one works in the area of Gun Violence and targets their work on state legislation in conjunction with Washington Ceasfire. If interested please contact Rev. Paul Benz at 206-694-5772 or pbenz@lcsnw.org.

Pianist Wanted

The family of Grace in Auburn is in need of a pianist. This dynamic, growing congregation is seeking a pianist to accompany innovative, relevant worship at 8 a.m on Sundays (7:45 a.m. to 9 a.m.). The successful candidate will receive $65 per service. The position begins on Sept. 8. Please contact Pastor Terrie Rae Anderson at 253-833-8910 for more information.

Choir Accompanist

Our Savior in Issaquah, is looking for an organist/pianist to accompany the Chancel Choir on Wednesday night for rehearsal and 2-3 Sundays per month for an anthem during one service. This is the perfect job for organists who want some weekends free. Please contact the church office 425-392-4169 for further information.

Fires of Nebuchadnezzer

The Bothell Outreach Acting Theater (BOAT) is performing the *Fires of Nebuchadnesser*, a new Old Testament musical with the Klezmer Band.

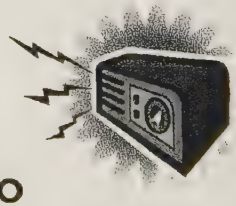
Wtih music, prose and poetry this nine-person cast from Bothell is presenting an updated version of the first four chapters of Daniel.

If you would like BOAT to perform this musical at your church, you must book soon. Contact Nathan Jensen at First Lutheran Church in Bothell at 425-486-2314. Proceeds benefit *Maritime Ministries.*

International Scholarships

The Lutheran World Federation (LWF) offers a few scholarships to member churches in the US for international study. Application deadline is October 1, 2002. The application is several pages long and the applicants must be endorsed by their synodical bishop. Notification for the 2003 programs is made in early 2003, with disbursement of funds after July 2003. For more information contact Rev. Dr. Franklin Ishida, Division for Global Mission, at 1-800-638-3522 or email at fishida@elca.org.

Listen to *Lutheran Vespers* with Rev. Walt Wangerin every Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on KIRO Newsradio 710 AM.



Operation Fuzzy Squirrel

This is a new ELCA resource in youth nd family ministry. While the format is umorous and playful the video has a erious intent--to help adults in your ongregation reach out to youth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Segments are esigned to shed light on ministry to and ith young people. They are:

- Bible Study Reports
- Reflections on Faith
- *Fuzzies* and *Creepies*
- AAA adults
- MIMYC (Mainline Institute for the Marginalization of Youth in the Congregation)
- *Youth Today* Documentary
- *Faith Factors* Research

The producers hope that adults will xperience the joys, challenges and power f passing on the faith to the next eneration. The length of the video is 40 inutes. Call Region 1 Resource Center at 206-624-0093 ext. 100. Ask for V-1248.

Sunday School Teachers

The Sunday School Teachers from Skagit and Snohomish County are invited to an inspirational *Teachers Training Workshop* from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 28 at Our Saviour's in Stanwood.

If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Don Brekhus at 360-629-3767.

The special event will include a keynote speaker and workshops on:

- Classroom management
- Creative story telling
- How to's of a quality adult education program
- Workshop rotation model

Parenting By Heart

If you are a parent you probably have asked yourself many questions about parenting. The Region 1 Resource Center has a new video series of four tapes that are designed to answer the most frequently asked questions that parent have.

How can I be a successful parent? The authors present one 'secret ingredient'.

How can I break my child's defiant behavior? The authors present five options.

How can I pass along my spiritual values to my child? The authors offer three steps.

How can I maintain influence with my kids as they get older? The authors share that it is all based on one thing.

The tapes in the series are called: *How to Really Love Your Child* (V-1237); *The Key To Discipline* (V-1238); *Power Strategies* (V-1239) and *A Lasting Legacy* (V-1240). Each tape is 24 minutes long. There is also a discussion guide.

To reserve your video, call the Region 1 at 206-624-0093, ext. 100. The Resource Center is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

News and Notes

- **Marilyn deVeers** was ordained at Our Savior's in Issaquah on June 23. She has been called to a three point parish in North Dakota.
- **Dan Shaw** has been approved for exception to rules governing the ELCA's full communion relationship with the Episcopal Church. Shaw will be ordained on July 20 at Emmanuel, Tacoma by Pastor Richard Foege (Emmanuel). The congregation of Zion in Kent has called Shaw.
- **Rev Dick Wendt** has accepted a call to serve the Edmonds-Lynnwood Parish as Parish Mission Director and to serve St. Peter's by the Sea in Edmonds as their pastor. As Parish Mission Director he will provide leadership and coordination on the areas of evangelism and justice and mercy. The Edmonds-Lynnwood Parish is: Trinity, Lynnwood; St. Matthew, Edmonds; Christ, Edmonds; and St. Peter by the Sea, Edmonds.
- Check out the new look to **Region 1's website**. You can find the site at www.elcaregion1.org.
- Lutheran Community Services needs **foster families**. Contact Phyllis Pugnetti at 206-694-5713.
- Check out the new **Lutheran Community Services** website at www.lcsnw.org. There is timely information for parents about what to do with your kids during summer vacation. This featured article is written by Torena O'Rorke, M.Ed., an LCS therapist in Kenniwick.

In Memory

The Rev. John Hopp

Pastor John Hopp, retired living in Cornelius, Oregon died on Monday, March 11, 2002 at the age of 91 following declining health for several years.

Pastor Hopp was born November 23, 1910 in Tacoma, Washington. He attended Pacific Lutheran College, University of Puget Sound and Evangelical Lutheran Seminary, Columbus, Ohio. John was ordained on August 1, 1937. John married Margaret Rorem on June 29, 1939. He is survived by Margaret and children, Serena, Peter, Paul, James and Carol.

During his years in active ministry, John served many calls including: St. Paul, Hildreth, NE; American, Kellogg, ID; Faith, Seattle; Evangelical, Petersburg, AK; First, Bothell, WA; First and Vale, Newell/Vale, SD; St. Paul, Elk Point, SD; Zion and Clam Falls, Clam Falls, WI; and visitation pastor at St. Matthew, Beaverton, OR. Pastor Hopp at the time of his death was the oldest Pastor in age and in years of ordination on the roster of the Oregon Synod.

Pastor Hopp was a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and the Church. Peace be to his memory!

Within Our Family

***Within Our Family** depends upon you--not only for prayers, but also your prayer requests. Please contact the Synod office with any additions to this column.*

To Keep in Our Prayers....

† The family of **Madison Grace Woods Berggren,** daughter of Dan and Cara Berggren of Gig Harbor. Madison was born in 1996 and died peacefully in her sleep on May 22. A memorial service was held on June 1 at Trinity Lutheran College. Cara is a Youth and Family Ministry Professor at Trinity. Don works for World Vision.

† **Rev. Laurie Jones** of Ballard First in Seattle and her family. Both her parents, Esther and Otis Jones, recently passed away. They lived in California. You can contact Pastor Jones by email at ballardfirst@aol.com. Notes and cards may be mailed to 1015 W. Nickerson St., #333, Seattle, WA 98199.

† The family of **the Rev. John Hopp (ret.)**. Pastor Hopp died at the age of 91 in March. (Please see article on page 14.)

† **Rev. Jim Schoeld (ret.) and his wife Rachel** who were in a serious one-car accident last summer. Continued prayers for their recovery.

† **The Rev. Doug Langholz** (Magnolia, Seattle) who continues to suffer the debilitating effects of ALS and is on disability. A celebration of his ministry was held at Magnolia on April 14. He and his wife, Mary, will continue to worship at Magnolia. You can contact Pastor Doug and Mary Langholz at: 2802 - 29th Ave. W, Seattle, WA 98199-2710; telephone 206-285-6214. The Rev. Mark Reiff will continue to serve the congregation of Magnolia.

† **The Rev. Robert Moylan (ret.)** as he deals with progressive muscular dystrophy.

† The **Rev. Luther Gabrielsen** (ret.) during his cancer treatments.

† The family of **The Rev. Will L. Herzfeld.** Rev. Herzfeld, presiding bishop of the former Association of Evangelical Lutheran Churches (AELC), civil rights activist, ecumenist and pastor of the ELCA died on May 9. At the time of his death, Herzfeld was associate executive director, ELCA Division for Global Mission, a position he held since 1993. Herzfeld died following a sudden attack of cerebral malaria.

† **For our Missionaries Jean Wahlstrom and her husband Marvin Kananen** who are taking a three-month leave this summer. They are missionaries at the Maasae Girls Lutheran Secondary School in Monduli (near Arusha), Tanzania.

Congratulations To...

† **The Rev. David and Cindy Kruger** who recently adopted two children: Jacob JaVontae who was born on October 2, 1999; and Cassandra Grace Nicole who was born on January 26, 2002. Both were baptized on April 28, 2002. For the past four years Rev. Kruger was the pastor for Consultation to Clergy. He has recently taken a new position in California.

† Congratulations to **Pastor Joel H. Kutzke**, Shepherd of the Hills in Issaquah, who received his Doctor of Ministries from The Lutheran School of Theology.

Thank you

Many of you insert the newsletter The Spirit in the congregation's monthly newsletter. Thank you very much for sharing this newsletter with your members. We know that it takes extra time to do this.

Bulk Mail Friendly

The Spirit is for members of congregations in our Synod. The Synod office staff asks that you copy and insert The Spirit in with your congregation's newsletter. To ensure that The Spirit meets the U.S. Postal Service bulk mail criteria be sure to type the following information at the top of The Spirit before you make your copies: "Insert to *month, year* issue and *name of your newsletter."* Example: Insert to May 2000 issue of "The Trumpet."

Share Your News

Deadlines For Synod Publications

Upcoming deadlines for Soundings and The Spirit are:

September Issue—Monday, Aug. 5
October Issue--Tuesday, Sept. 3
November Issue--Monday, Sept. 30
December Issue--Monday, Nov. 4

If you haven't visited the Synod web site recently, check it out. The site provides information to rostered leaders and to the members of NWWA Synod. Go to www.lutheransnw.org.

Do you have story ideas, photos or information that can be shared with the whole Synod. Please send information for any of the above communication pieces to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; email mpeiffle@msn.com; telephone 360-403-9870; or fax 360-435-5955.

Soundings

News and information for pastors, associates in ministry, lay leaders and ecumenical friends of the

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(Permission to copy information in Soundings for use in congregations is granted.)

The deadline for the September 2002 issue of Soundings and The Spirit is Monday, Aug. 5. Send information to: Margit Peiffle, 21721 88th Ave. NE, Arlington, WA 98223; fax: 360-435-5955; email: mpeiffle@msn.com; or telephone 360-403-9870.